

Mr. Karl passed away March 7, 2013, at age 88. He was a true professional who provided his tremendous legal skills, service and talent to our community, as well as to so many communities throughout Florida. We were fortunate to benefit from his commitment to fairness, diplomacy and fortitude, and we should forever be grateful for his contributions.

# INTRODUCTION OF THE PRESERVATION OF ANTIBIOTICS FOR MEDICAL TREATMENT ACT OF 2013

**HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 14, 2013*

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Preservation of Antibiotics for Medical Treatment Act of 2013. We are on the verge of losing one of the greatest medical advancements in history, the development of antibiotics, by wasting them on healthy animals.

Antibiotic resistance is a major public health crisis. Every year, two million Americans acquire bacterial infections during a stay in a hospital or long-term care facility. In the past, these infections were easily cleared with antibiotics. Now, as many as 100,000 people will die each year from these infections because 70 percent of them are resistant to one or more of the drugs commonly used to treat them. Alarming, multidrug-resistant bacteria, called CRE, have recently been found in 1 in 20 American hospitals and 1 in 6 long-term care facilities. These "nightmare bacteria," so termed by Centers for Disease Control Director Dr. Thomas Frieden, are resistant to all antibiotics, including our antibiotics of last resort. A full 50 percent of patients who get sick with these infections will die.

As Dr. Frieden recently warned, "we have a limited window of opportunity" to fix this problem. In many cases, even "our strongest antibiotics don't work and patients are left with potentially untreatable infections." We must act now to ensure that antibiotics are not being made obsolete.

Yet, in a time when our most important medicines should be preserved and protected, they are routinely used in massive and indiscriminant quantities in agriculture, with little oversight. These precious resources are used at sub-therapeutic levels on healthy animals as a way to compensate for crowded and unsanitary living conditions or to promote growth. According to an analysis by the Food and Drug Administration, 13.5 million kilograms of antibiotics were sold for use in livestock and poultry in 2010, compared to 3.3 million kilograms sold for use in humans. It is unacceptable that 80 percent of the antibiotics sold in this country are used in agriculture on otherwise healthy animals, rather than being preserved for the treatment of critical human illnesses.

The overuse of antibiotics in agriculture has been conclusively shown to harm human health. A 2002 publication in the *Clinical Infectious Diseases* journal analyzing more than 500 scientific articles concluded that "many lines of evidence link antimicrobial resistant human infections to food-borne pathogens of animal origin." In fact, the Food and Drug Ad-

ministration acknowledged the threat of antibiotic resistant disease and called for a reduction in the use of antibiotics in agriculture, in 1977. Yet, despite nearly 40 years of evidence, there has still not been any substantive action to halt the abuse of antibiotics.

For this reason, I am again introducing the Preservation of Antibiotics for Medical Treatment Act. This legislation would phase out the use of the eight classes of medically important antibiotics that are currently approved for non-therapeutic use in animal agriculture. The bill clearly defines the term "non-therapeutic use" to ensure that sick animals may be appropriately treated, but that any use of medically important antibiotics outside of treatment of a sick animal is not permitted.

Penicillins are commonly used to treat illnesses from routine cases of strep throat to highly dangerous and infectious meningitis. Tetracyclines are used to treat people exposed to anthrax. Macrolides and sulfonamides are used to treat pneumonia in HIV-infected patients. We must maintain these weapons in our arsenal against illness, or we will soon find ourselves in circumstances such as those described when World Health Organization Director-General Dr. Margaret Chan warned that "Things as common as strep throat or a child's scratched knee could once again kill."

When we go to the grocery store to pick up dinner, we should be able to buy our food without the worry that eating it will expose our family to potentially deadly bacteria that will no longer respond to our medical treatments. Unless we act now, we will unwittingly be permitting animals to serve as incubators for resistant bacteria.

It is time for Congress to stand with scientists, the World Health Organization, the American Medical Association, and the National Academy of Sciences to do something to stop the spread of antibiotic resistant bacteria. Protecting the public's health is one of the greatest responsibilities of this body. I urge my colleagues to stand with me to support The Preservation of Antibiotics for Medical Treatment Act.

## TRIBUTE TO INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF WORKFORCE PROFESSIONALS

**HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 14, 2013*

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a professional organization that is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year. The International Association of Workforce Professionals (IAWP) is dedicated to developing our global workforce through education, research, legislative action and international networking. I applaud their efforts and join with them in celebrating this centennial milestone.

IAWP was founded in 1913 in Chicago by W.M. Leiserson, who was the Superintendent of Wisconsin Employment Offices. He brought together professionals working in public and private workforce development programs to form a non-profit educational association. Its mission remains as it has been from the beginning to "develop professionals for today and tomorrow."

Since its founding, IAWP has consistently worked to uphold the founding principles; to provide members with education, leadership opportunities, information exchange and recognition of excellence in the workforce development field.

The members of this organization have provided a plethora of services to millions of American workers, including new entrants, unemployed and employed by providing job placement assistance, training or retraining, career information, intensive services to dislocated workers, unemployment insurance benefits and disaster unemployment benefits, youth training opportunities such as job corps and summer jobs, trade act adjustment payments and training, counseling, veterans placement and training services, on the job training contracts, job analysis, recruitment, rapid response team for large layoffs, assistance to disabled workers, labor market and career services and administrative support to the workforce system.

In this global economy, I am pleased to see IAWP working across borders to ensure that the professionals of tomorrow are prepared both in the United States and abroad. The organization has members from many other countries who attend their conferences and contribute information to their publications providing a forum to broaden the discussion of and insight into workforce issues. The IAWP has held international conferences, chapter and district conferences and institutes to provide training and networking opportunities. The organization also publishes an informative newsletter to keep members informed of issues related to workforce development and education materials.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and our colleagues to join me in commemorating the 100th anniversary of the International Association of Workforce Professionals. This organization has provided tremendous guidance and support to its members throughout its long history. It is my hope that IAWP continues its good work for another century and beyond.

## HONORING THE PHILANTHROPY OF RALPH AND JOY ELLIS

**HON. KENNY MARCHANT**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 14, 2013*

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize Ralph and Joy Ellis as one of the most caring and giving couples in North Texas, and it is my distinct honor to highlight their significant contributions to the Lyric Stage of Irving, Texas. Furthermore, I would like to congratulate them for receiving the prestigious Lyric Stage Spotlight Award for philanthropic contributions to the arts at the Lyric Stage 20th Anniversary Gala on March 22, 2013.

Irving Lyric was founded in 1993 by Irving native Steven Jones to preserve and develop American musical theater. In 2007, the National Endowment for the Arts recognized Lyric Stage by awarding a grant to the theater to host Rodgers and Hammerstein's *Carousel* with a 40-piece orchestra. Ralph and Joy Ellis were so impressed with the performance that they have personally contributed the resources necessary for Lyric Stage to continue featuring a full orchestra at each production playing the original Broadway orchestrations.